



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

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Grand Teton National Park News Release

Three Bull Elk Poached In Grand Teton National Park

Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced that three mature bull elk were illegally shot and killed by four men in the Arizona Creek Drainage well inside of Grand Teton National Park early Monday morning, September 27.

The men, all Wyoming residents, were licensed to hunt in the Bridger-Teton National Forest with Wyoming Game and Fish permits. On Sunday evening, September 26, these men contacted a park ranger to verify boundary information and were advised with precise details about where the park boundary is located and how to identify it. The ranger reminded these hunters of the importance of being certain that they were inside the Bridger-Teton National Forest before beginning to hunt.

On Monday, other hunters in the area contacted the park to report shots from what they suspected was illegal hunting underway. Two park rangers and a Wyoming Game and Fish warden responded to the area and found the illegal hunters field dressing two of the three bull elk well inside of Grand Teton National Park.

Park rangers verified the identities of the illegal hunters and are currently working with the Assistant U.S. Attorney in Lander, Wyoming, to determine appropriate charges. Once charges are determined, the names of the men will be released.

The meat was sent to cold storage in Jackson, Wyoming, for the possibility of providing it to needy families. The remaining parts of the animals were left for scavengers to utilize.

Superintendent Gibson Scott reminds all area hunters that killing wildlife in a national park is a federal offense. Federal court prosecution for wildlife poaching carries significant penalties, which can include imprisonment, fines, seizure of equipment, and wildlife restitution charges.

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